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scriptions of the species, the botanical name, and in some instances by remarks suggested by the study of the specimens or by difficulties encountered in collecting them. The edible species are also indicated. The whole work is the product of Miss Banning's own labor and does great credit to her as an artist and a mycologist. The volume is one of great value, and the New York State Museum is under great obligations to its author for such a munificent gift.

CHAS. H. PECK.

Reviews of Foreign Literature.

White Huckleberries.—In the *Berichte der deutschen Botanischen Gesellschaft* for January, pp. 387-400, is a paper by Ascherson and Magnus* which considers at length the albinos and other color and form variations in *V. Myrtillus* and other species of the genus *Vaccinium*. White huckleberries have long been known, and many citations are given of their being found in various countries throughout the world. Schweter, in 1878, described a fungus disease of the huckleberry fruit under the name of *Sclerotinia baccarum* that has been considered by some botanists as the cause of the variations of color and form above mentioned. As the title indicates, the present paper is to show that the ordinary white huckleberry is not identical with those *Vaccinium* fruits that are modified by the presence of the *Sclerotinia*. The authors claim with much authority that while in the case of *V. Myrtillus* var. *leucocarpa* there may be some ground for the belief in identity, it is entirely superficial. Form and color may mislead, but when the microscopic structure is studied, and more particularly the fungus fruit that under proper conditions is produced from the diseased berries, it becomes evident that the two are very unlike in origin. By referring to Dr. Woronin's elaborate paper,† with its ten superior plates, it is quickly seen that Schweter's species, under consideration, is well understood and clearly set forth, along with several others that prey upon the huckleberries.

*Die Weisse Heidelbeere (*Vaccinium Myrtillus*, L. var. *leucocarpa*, Hause). nicht identische mit der durch *Sclerotinia baccarum* (Sch.), Rehm, verursachten Sclerotien Krankheit.

†Ueber die Sclerotien Krankheit der Vaccinien Beeren, 1888.

Turning to the other side, it may be said that there are great variations in the color and form of the fruit within the genus *Vaccinium*. Our own *V. corymbosum*, var. *atrococcum* is an illustration of "berries purple black, without any bloom," while *V. Pennsylvanicum*, var. *nigrum* is another with black fruit, and the cranberries exhibit a wide range of fruit colors. While it is true that in some cases the fruits, changed by fungi, may resemble those of albinos and "sports," it is also evident that no great difficulty should be experienced in deciding between the two. For example, we could suppose a rye grain to vary and become of a dark purple color and pass for ergot, but put to the test the deception is easily removed. BYRON D. HALSTED.

Chrysanthemum "Samuel Henshaw." (Garden, xxxvi. 381). As our fellow member is responsible for the origin of this *Chrysanthemum*, the Club will no doubt be pleased to know that it is attracting considerable attention in England, and it is said that "should the variety Samuel Henshaw turn out to be as valuable as is anticipated by some, it will be another instance of a plant whose merits were overlooked when it was first sent out." We congratulate Mr. Henshaw upon his success. A. H.

Recherches sur la transpiration et l'assimilation pendant les nuits Norvégiennes. M. G. Curtel. (Rev. Gen. de Bot. 15 Jan. 1890).

It is a well known fact that plants of northern regions grow more rapidly and often acquire a larger growth than the same species would with us. M. Curtel's experiments at Kongsvold, Norway, were undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of transpiration and assimilation during the long, crepuscular nights, and he suggests that one of the causes of the greater rapidity of growth might be the long duration of chlorophyllian assimilation which uninterruptedly might take place during the whole night. The leaves of Rye and *Hieracium Pilosella* were the plants used, and the results of the experiments are summed up in the following:

"1st. That chlorophyllian assimilation and transpiration took place during the whole of the night of July 31 to August 1.

2d. That particularly as to the assimilation, there was a minimum corresponding to the minimum of light." A. M. V.